

# The Primary Source

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# The Primary Source

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Volume Seven

November 1985

Number Four

## THE HATTIESBURG MUNICIPAL RECORDS PROJECT: AN UPDATE

Frank Walker

Certain aspects of the Hattiesburg Municipal Records Project have been reported in past issues of The Primary Source. One recent article described the flood of April, 1983, which immersed many of the oldest municipal records. It was noted that nearly all of these oldest items survived, though some later evidenced their aquatic adventure.

This report will outline activities of the project which have taken place during the past two years. Described briefly are: (1) the microfilm program, (2) the transfer of "historical" records to the University of Southern Mississippi, and (3) the establishment of a municipal photograph archives. Problems of the present and plans for the immediate future also are noted.

### MICROFILM OPERATION

During the past several years, in excess of 150,000 pages of documentation from the Office of City Clerk have been microfilmed. Included are cemetery records, contracts, leases, and election records. These items have been filmed with a 16mm rotary microfilm camera. Minute books dating from 1885 and recent property ownership maps have been filmed in 35mm. Large prints from the microfilm of property maps have been quite useful to both the Tax Department and the Planning Department. The seventy-seven maps in this series can be reproduced rather inexpensively, so that designated municipal employees can have a set on which to make notations and which can be carried in an auto or City truck.

Whether 35mm or 16mm film is used, each roll of film is duplicated in order to make available a security copy, stored off-site. One City Hall employee stated to the municipal archivist that, without the duplicate microfilm, a fire in City Hall could destroy records that would literally cost millions of dollars to replace...a convincing justification for the expense of the project itself.

Indexing for the microfilm has been done by the archivist as each roll was returned from the processing lab. Indexes are based on odometer readings.

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SOCIETY OF AMERICAN ARCHIVISTS  
Terry Latour

The Primary Source is a quarterly publication of news and ideas produced by the Society of Mississippi Archivists, a non-profit organization of professional archivists and interested persons.

Your contributions are welcome.  
Write The Primary Source, P.O.  
Box 1151, Jackson, MS 39205.

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Editor.....Lynne Mueller  
Assistant Editors..Martha Sparrow  
H.T. Holmes

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The Society of American Archivists recently held its 49th annual meeting in Austin, Texas. More than 700 archivists, manuscript curators and others attended the conference which included pre-conference workshops, repository tours, meetings of various committees, task forces and sections, open houses, luncheons and 65 programs sessions. Mississippi was represented at the meeting by seven Society of Mississippi Archivists members: H.T. Holmes, Terry S. Latour, Madel Morgan, Linda L. Overman, Suzanne F. Steele, Anne S. Wells and Julia M. Young.

The opening luncheon was the setting for a major address by Sidney J. Levy, a Northwestern University professor and a widely-known authority on non-profit marketing. Levy has recently conducted an extensive study of persons who allocate resources to archives programs.

Forty-four resource allocators were interviewed to determine what they think of archivists, how they define them as professionals, and what they consider to be their primary roles and functions. Surprisingly, the findings indicate that the resource and importance of archives and they have a good degree of appreciation for the work of archivists. However, even though they value archivists' professional credentials and recognize the importance of their work, the resource allocators often said that the influence archivists have in the larger institution is limited. Archivists usually do not have a real impact on overall policy.

Levy found that competition for resources within an organization often results in lower than desired allocations to the archives. This occurs for several reasons: 1) archives tend to be "out of sight, out of mind;" 2) the archives hark to the past and seem passive and stored compared to more current, ongoing, aggressive demands on the budget; 3) archivists lack political clout compared to other departments; 4) archives are most vital in academic institutions which may be the poorest of parent organizations; 5) archives are legally required in government but are up against more powerful groups; 6) they are not profit centers in business. However, allocators seem to be prone to provide additional finding for special programs, care, processing, and maintenance of significant newly acquired collections, and various special projects and exhibits. Some allocators believe that a lack of archival assertiveness accounts for the public's ignorance of archives and a correspondingly low level of funding.



(The odometer on either camera or reader-printer increases one integer for every four inches of microfilm). This sort of odometer-based indexing is not as precise as would be a blip-coded systems, but it is less expensive and is adequate for records which are not high-use items.

These typewritten indexes will likely be entered into the City Clerk's computer system in the near future. Some of the indexes, particularly that for cemetery records, will need to be improved.

Recently, a doctoral candidate at the University of Southern Mississippi was able to locate certain issues of early Hattiesburg newspapers not previously known to be available. The researcher allowed these newspapers to be micro-filmed, and today the resultant film is maintained in the municipal archives as well as in the McCain Library and Archives, University of Southern Mississippi.

At the present time, records of the Planning Department are being filmed. After completion of this project, certain files of the Inspection Department will likewise be filmed. There has been considerable speculation about a major undertaking--a project to microfilm hundreds of volumes of property tax records--but that is still in the discussion state due to the cost and time involved.

#### HISTORICAL RECORDS

In June of this year, the City of Hattiesburg transferred to the McCain Library and Archives a portion of the City's historically significant records. These ca. fifty cubic feet of municipal documentation consist of the surviving files of mayors, 1894-1980; city commissioners, 1957-1973; and city clerks, 1891-1921; as well as tax collectors' reports, 1893-1933; treasurers' reports, 1893-1914; circuit court cost allocation records, 1899-1911; public school records (school construction and teacher payroll records), 1893-1919; city engineers' and street foremens' records, 1901-1928; marshals' reports, 1894-1915; and poundkeepers' reports, 1906-1915. All of the above have been reprocessed since the flood two years ago.

Of particular interest in these record series is the correspondence of certain past mayors. However, much correspondence of this type has disappeared over the years or was claimed as personal property by outgoing mayors. Also of interest are city financial records, notably the series of reports of various city treasurers for the years 1893-1914.

In a related matter, City officials have stated that records of the Office of Mayor during the administrations of Hon. Bobby Chain and his predecessor, Hon. A.L. "Bud" Gerrard, will be transferred to the McCain Library as soon as they are classified "inactive" by those now using them in City Hall. This sort of university-municipal cooperation is a longstanding tradition in Hattiesburg.



## PHOTOGRAPH ARCHIVES

A photograph archives in its infancy in Hattiesburg City Hall, initially constituted of several hundred color prints and a lesser number of negatives from the Engineering and Planning Departments. These portray subjects such as the redevelopment of downtown Hattiesburg and the 1983 flood. Prints and negatives have been sleeved in Mylar. An indexing system in its early stages of development. It is hoped that this index also can eventually be transferred to computer.

The above positive things having been started in regard to the Hattiesburg Municipal Records Project, it would be well to note also the downside, as evident at the present time. That would be the lack of an adequate records center for storage of large records series, most of which need be retained only for a specified period of time. This lack of a center has been an acute problem since the beginning of the project more than four years ago, and has resulted in some rather bizarre compromises. Nevertheless, as of the present those in high places of city government in Hattiesburg have demonstrated no desire to terminate the program despite recent and rather radical political changes including not only the seating of a new mayor but also a change of governing systems, commission to council form. Therefore, there still is some hope that a record storage center will eventually become a reality.

On a related subject, it must be noted that the entire question of retention schedules for Hattiesburg municipal records remains undecided. Schedules for most of the major record groups have been suggested by the archivist, based on those in effect elsewhere, but as yet nothing has been done. In most instances, municipal officials retain records longer than necessary, "better safe than sorry".

Despite these ongoing slight frustrations, the records project continues in Hattiesburg. Questions as to how long it will continue and its future scope remain unanswered.

ACCESSION REPORTING FOR THE PRIMARY SOURCE

NAME OF INSTITUTION:

NAME OF COLLECTION:

DATES:

VOLUME:

COLLECTION CURRENTLY OPEN \_\_\_\_\_ OR CLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION AND SIGNIFICANCE:

DONOR:

Please send to: Mrs. Martha C. Sparrow  
207 Arrow Drive  
Starkville, MS 39759

Deadline for inclusion are:

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The report raises many controversial issues ranging from the role of outreach to funding to certification for archivists. The Society of American Archivists is now making plans to release the report in a form that protects the confidentiality of the respondents.

#### DESCRIPTION SECTION MEETING:

Kathleen Roe, chair of the Description Section reported that her Automation Survey received a good response from the membership. A large number of archives are using a variety of computers, and software at their repositories. In the next issue of the Section's newsletter, Descriptive Notes, more complete results and information will be reported.

Lisa Weber, program officer for SAA's Automated Archival Information Program outlined the goals of this new program funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. It will establish a centralized clearinghouse for automation information, conduct a nationwide series of workshops and provide guidance and training that will assist archivists in assessing the needs of their institutions and provide realistic programs to take advantage of available information technology.

A representative for Chadwyck-Healey reported on their National Inventory of Documentary Sources in the United States project. Part 2, registers of collections in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress was published last year and is available for purchase. Part 2, Federal Records in the National Archives, the Presidential Libraries and the Smithsonian Institution Archives is now being published and made available for sale. Part 4, Academic and Research Libraries is on the verge of publication and the first segment of this ongoing series should be available near the end of the year. Since it is to be published in segments, there is still time for other institutions to participate in this program. Finally, Part 3, State Archives, State Libraries and State Historical Societies is still in the filming and preparation stages, but I believe they are planning initial publication in 1986. More information can be outlined from Chadwyck-Healey Inc., 2511 Pontiac Trail, Ann Arbor, MI 48105 or telephone (313) 662-2662.



## ACCESSIONS

### The University of Mississippi Blues Archive

Red Tops Collection. 1953-1973. 3½ feet plus 3 volumes.

The papers of this popular black dance orchestra based in Vicksburg, Mississippi, include financial records, appointment books, and memoranda of engagements, song lists, photographs and sound records presenting both a musical and an economic history of the group, which played for both white and black audiences in Mississippi and Louisiana. Presented by Walter Osborne of Vicksburg, the band's drummer and manager. Collection is open.

### Mississippi State University - University Archives

Intercollegiate Athletics - Sports Information Department Collection. 1967-1981. 5 cubic feet.

16 millimeter film of regular, spring and practice football games. Presented by Bo Carter of the Sports Information Department. Collection is open.

Presidents' Papers - James Douglas McComas. 1976-1985. 55 cubic feet.

Files of the presidency of James Douglas McComas, Fourteenth MSU president.

Presented by the President's Office MSU. Collection is closed.

Academic Affairs, College of Arts and Sciences, Geology and Geography Department Collection. 1950s-1970s. 2 cubic feet.

Files of Ernest Everett Russell, Professor of Geology and Geography.

Presented by Ernest Everett Russell via Martha Ward, Gifts and Exchange Librarian at MSU. Collection is open.

College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine, Cooperative Extension Services, Entomology Department. 1970s. 2 cubic feet.

Files on DDT research.

Presented by Joseph P. Harris. Collection is open.

Phi Kappa Phi Collection. 1970s-1980s. 1 cubic foot.

Files of the MSU Chapter of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

Presented by Martha Booth, MSU librarian. Collection is open.

College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine, Dairy Science Department. 1958-1984. 1 cubic foot.

Papers of Edward William Custer, Professor of Dairy Science.

Presented by Edward William Custer. Collection is open.



Mississippi State University - Manuscripts

Catledge (Turner) Papers. Accretion. 1944-1970. 16 cubic feet.

Correspondence, reports, and other documents pertaining to Mr. Catledge's career with The New York Times.

Presented by The New York Times Company.

Mississippi Republican Party Papers. Accretion. 1979-1983. 8 cubic feet.

Documents concerning the activities of the Mississippi Republican Party and the gubernatorial campaign (1983) of Leon Bramlett.

Presented by the Mississippi Republican Party.

Permission required for access.

Starkville Area Business and Professional Women's Club. 1972-1985. 7 cubic feet.

Scrapbooks, photographs, awards, clippings, committee records, and club history.

Presented by Starkville Area Business and Professional Women's Club.

Collection is open.

Peacock (Lucille) Collection. 1927-1985. 2 Volumes.

Scrapbooks (2) containing clippings, broadsides, and photographs concerning Lucille Peacock, the Evans Memorial Library in Aberdeen and the History of Monroe County, Mississippi.

Presented by the estate of Lucille Peacock.

Collection is open.

Montgomery (G.V. "Sonny") Papers. Accretion. 1929-1985. 74 cubic feet.

Personal papers, memorabilia, and official files concerning Montgomery's service in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Presented by G.V. Montgomery.

Collection is, in part, open.

Keady (William C.) Papers. Accretion. 1944-1985. 59.5 cubic feet.

Personal papers and official files concerning judicial cases in the U.S. District Court, Northern District of Mississippi. Included are many

documents relating to the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway and the

Mississippi State Penitentiary.

Presented by William C. Keady.

Collection is closed.

Neilson (Lillian B.) Collection. 1829-1976. .3 cubic feet.

Journals, financial records, correspondence, photographs, and family history pertaining primarily to James C. Neilson of Greene County,

Alabama, and Lowndes County, Mississippi. Among the topics in Neilson's journals (1853-1892) are freedmen, farming, the Grange, his service in the Mississippi Legislature, and an arson trail. Photocopies only.

Presented by Lillian B. Neilson.



Sledge (Broox) Papers. 1938-1985. 2 cubic feet.

Correspondence, manuscripts, clippings, and research material relating to articles written by Broox Sledge. Among the main subjects are Noxubee County, the state of Mississippi, the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek, and post offices in the state. Also included are a history of Noxubee County and genealogical data about early settlers in the county.

Presented by Broox Sledge.

Collection is open.

Emmerich (John Oliver) Papers. 1877-1978. 6.5 cubic feet.

Correspondence, clippings, research materials, photographs, and memorabilia concerning John Oliver Emmerich (1896-1978), editor and publisher of the McComb Enterprise-Journal. A significant part of the collection consists of research material and photographs collected for McComb's centennial celebration in 1972.

Presented by John Oliver Emmerich, Jr. and the McComb Enterprise-Journal.

Collection is open.

#### Lowndes County Library

Williams (Tennessee) Collection. 1941-1985. 5 cubic feet.

Tennessee Williams was born in Columbus, Mississippi. The collection consists of scarce editions of plays, books, articles, photographs, and types by and about Tennessee Williams.

Collection was purchased through a grant from the Mississippi Library Commission.

Collection is open.

Lowndes County Photograph Collection. Accretion. Late 1800s to mid 1900s. 76 photographs.

Photos of Lucy Young Banks and other family members.

Presented by Lucy Young Banks.

Collection is open.

#### Millsaps College - Millsaps - Wilson Library

Millsaps (Major Reuben Webster) Papers. 1895-1916. 36 linear feet.

The papers consist of the correspondence of Major Millsaps including letters from 1895-1916.

Collection is currently unprocessed.

#### Evans Memorial - Library - Aberdeen

Peacock (Lucille) Collection. 1930s-1970s. 4 cubic feet.

Scrapbooks, quarterly publications of historical and library associations, articles and radio scripts by Miss Peacock including some of her early writings; clippings on Aberdeen business, civic clubs, churches, library history and reports; material for the book Mother Monroe by W. A. Evans.

Presented by the estate of Lucille Peacock.

Collection in process.



Aberdeen Photographs. Accretion. c. 1906.  
Picture postcard of the old Aberdeen High School.  
Presented by Mrs. Kris Bennett, Archivist, Columbus Public Library.  
Collection is open.

University of Southern Mississippi  
McCain Library and Archives

Bilbo (Theodore G.) Collection. Accretion. 1905-1967. ca. 25 cubic feet.  
Approximately 35 personal letters between Theodore G. Bilbo and H.K.  
House of Poplarville (1935-1947); five miscellaneous letters;  
approximately 7 deeds; records relating to the settlement of the Bilbo  
Estate (Rouse was the administrator); records relating to the fund  
raising for the building of the mausoleum for Bilbo at the Juniper Grove  
Cemetery (1965-1967). Also included are various Mississippi newspapers  
and clippings relating to Bilbo (1903-1967), 1932 and 1936 Poplarville  
telephone directories and The Mississippian (dated April 1921).  
Presented by Mrs. Norman Rouse.  
Collection is open.

Pyles (Dixon L.) Legal Case Files. ca. 1945-1975. 52 cubic feet.  
Legal case files created by Attorney Dixon L. Pyles of Jackson,  
Mississippi. The files are oriented toward labor union cases in  
Mississippi, usury cases, and minority or civil rights cases. These  
files are one of the few sources on the labor union movement in  
Mississippi.  
Presented by Mr. Dixon L. Pyles  
Collection is open.

Hattiesburg Democrat. January 4, 1894. 1 item.  
This first issue of volume nine included local news and advertising for  
the Hattiesburg area which was then in Perry county.  
Presented by Ms. Mollye Jordan.  
Collection is open.

Woods (Sam) Collection. August 28, 1952. 1 item.  
Personal letter from Sam Woods to Joseph M. Howorth thanking him for  
forwarding copies of the Congressional Record.  
Presented by Mrs. Lucy Somerville Howorth.  
Collection is open.

Civil War Band Instrument Research Collection. Accretion. 1861-1965. 34  
items.  
Additional photographs of Civil War band, bandsmen, and band instruments,  
supported by photocopies.  
Presented by Dr. William Bufkin.  
Collection is open.



American Tung Oil Institute Records. Accretion. 1964-1970. 1 cubic feet. Research records, progress reports, formula specifications, patent records, organization by-laws, minute books, legal records, financial records and correspondence. The American Tung Oil Institute and its predecessor organizations conducted scientific research into the properties of tung oil and sponsored efforts to promote its use. Presented by Polymer Science Department of the University of Southern Mississippi. Collection is open.

Mississippi Department of Archives and History  
Special Collections Section

Manuscript Collection

Civil War Papers. Accretion. 1862. 1 item.

Letter written on June 17, 1862, by W.A. Harper (lieutenant, Company D, Lowry Rifles, 6th Mississippi Infantry) to his sister, Ella, s.l. Harper wrote from "near Tupelo, Miss.," and over half of the letter is devoted to lamenting "the horrors and privations of this ruinous war." Harper comments on the recent reorganization of the regiment and on news of friends.

Presented to the Department by Brenda Moore, Jackson.

Bellamy (William Joseph) Letters. 1863-1864. 6 items.

William Joseph Bellamy was born in 1828 in Franklin County, Georgia, and died in 1865 on the trip home (Tishomingo County) after war's end. He served as a member of Company H, Twenty-Sixth Mississippi Infantry. Two letters were written home to his wife, Martha Jane Bellamy, in May 1863 during the Vicksburg campaign. A letter dated November 23, 1863, to Bellamy from his grandmother was, according to family tradition, found on his body. He wrote a third letter from Demopolis, Ala., on March 27, 1864, and a fourth from Petersburg, Va., on December 23, 1864. Also included is a photograph of Bellamy.

Presented to the Department by Sidney Bellamy, Dallas, Texas.

Manship Family Papers. Accretion. 1899; 1913-1914; n.d. 14 items.

Four photographs, 12 broadsides, 1 scrapbook, 3 books and one file folder on the history of the Manship House comprise this accretion. Presented to the Department by the Louise Clarke Manship Estate in July 1985.

Byers Family Papers. 1859; 1861-1864; 1898; 1907; n.d. 15 items.

There are six letters from John Alemeth Byers (private, Company H, 17th Regiment, Mississippi Volunteers) to his family in Water Valley while serving in the Civil War. These letters date from October 1861 to August 1864 and contain information concerning the general health of his company, number of sick and injured, type of artillery being used, type and condition of food and clothing, and weather conditions. There is a letter from Lou (sister) to Byers, written from Huntsville Female College (Alabama), dated 1859. The collection also contains two letters from Tom McFarland to Blanch written during the Spanish-American War. The letter



dated 1898 has an interesting description of a General Lee as "a typical Saloon bum." Included also in the collection are two letters from E.S. Byers to his brother concerning their mother's will, a list of property taken by the U.S. army in 1862, and biographical information on the Byers family. Also included is an unidentified tintype.

Presented to the Department by Mary Anna Rodgers, Palm Beach, Florida.

Mississippi Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs. 1929-1981. 16 cubic feet.

The Mississippi Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs was organized in Hattiesburg on May 13, 1924. Four clubs were represented at that time: Hattiesburg, Clarksdale, Jackson, and McComb. This is primarily a collection of scrapbooks done by the Jackson, Riverside (Jackson), Meridian and Gulfport B&PW clubs. Included are annual scrapbooks, containing photographs, newspaper clippings and brochures of the particular club's events. Along with the scrapbooks are various publications, committee meeting minutes and correspondence. Included also is the state organization's correspondence from 1968-1976 and the correspondence and administrative papers of the State Public Relations Division, 1971-1981.

Presented to the Department by the Mississippi Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs.

Fox (Nathan Jackson) Diaries. 1853-1855; n.d. .33 cubic feet.

Nathan Jackson Fox was a Cumberland Presbyterian minister in Winchester, Tenn., and also rode circuits in northeastern Mississippi and northwestern Alabama. He and his family later migrated to Louisville, Winston County, where he died and is buried. This collection consists of: 1) three original diaries written by Fox during his Winchester residence and while circuit riding; 2) one bound set of typescripts of the diaries, transcribed by A.H. Spinks; 3) one unbound set of typescripts; 4) one imprint of a Fox speech; and 5) Hand family genealogy.

Presented to the Department by Albert H. Spinks, Burlington, N.C.

Democratic (Mississippi) Party Papers. 1967; 1970-1982. 15 cubic feet.

This collection covers primarily the time period 1976-1982. Some correspondence is included concerning the election of Party officers and the operation of the the Party after reunification. Among other material included is: committee meeting minutes; general correspondence; lists of delegates; information on workshops; National Democratic platforms; fund raising material; publicity material; qualification affidavits; memos to the Party chairman, Danny Cupit; absentee lists and Party resolutions. Included also is a file of contributors and the amount donated to the John Bell Williams gubernatorial campaign in 1967. County election returns for 1978-1982 are also included.

Presented to the Department by the Democratic Party of Mississippi.



McWilliams (Elsie) Song Collection. n.d. 2 items.

Elsie McWilliams was sister-in-law to Jimmy Rodgers, "The Singing Brakeman." She wrote many of his songs that became recording hits. This collection consists of two songs, neither of which is listed in Porterfield's Jimmie Rodgers discography: one holographic music and lyrics of song, "An Old Fashioned Heart," written by McWilliams for Rodgers: and one holographic lyrics to song, "Keep Traveling," signed by McWilliams.

Presented to the Department by Elsie McWilliams, Meridian.

Ladner (Heber A.) Papers. 1937-1939; 1942; 1947; 1951; 1980-1981; 1983-1984. 17 items.

Letters (1938-1939; 1942) from Sen. Theodore G. Bilbo, and letters from political candidates (1981; 1983-1984) thanking Ladner for political support constitute the bulk of this collection.

Presented to the Department by Heber Ladner.

Barnett (Ross R.) Papers. 1966-71. 4 cubic feet.

Speeches and press releases covering a variety of topics; education, race, industrialization, Citizens Council, etc.

Presented to the Department by Ross R. Barnett, Jr., Jackson.

McConnell (Mercedes) Collection. Accretion. n.d. .33 cubic feet.

Scrapbook and file of clippings and memorabilia.

Presented to the Department by Littleton P. Bradley, St. Louis, MO.

Howorth (Lucy Somerville) Papers. c. 1860-1865; c. 1970s. 3 cubic feet.

This collection consists primarily of correspondence and publication material relating to My Dear Nellie: The Civil War Letters of William L. Nugent to Eleanor Smith Nugent. This book was published by the

University Press of Mississippi in 1977, and was edited by William M. Cash and Lucy S. Howorth. In 1926, Howorth had her secretary make typescript copies of these original Civil War letters. In 1930, this version was corrected and a bound copy was made. Both of typescript versions are included in this collection. the photographs that were used in the publication are also offered. There is much genealogical information on the Nugent family in the form of letters, family trees and biographies. There are loose miscellaneous photographs, as well as a scrapbook containing unidentified family photographs.

Presented to the Department by Lucy Somerville Howorth.

Miscellaneous Manuscript Collection. 1844; 1864. 2 items.

One handwritten original license to practice law in Mississippi, issued to William T. S. Barry (1844); one medical certificate recommending a leave of absence for W. S. Barry (1864).

Bryant (Clyde) Papers. Accretion. c. 1890. 10 items.

Nine identified b/w photographs and one autograph book.

Street (James) Letter. 1940. 1 item.

Letter from Street to Purser Hewitt, then editor of the Clarion Ledger.

(Alabama), dated 1839. The collection also contains two letters from Tom McFarland to Blanche written during the Spanish-American War. The letter



Jefferson College Papers. Accretion. 1897-1958. 70 items.

Transferred from Jefferson College.

Nutt Family Papers. 1833; 1841; 1862; 1866-68; 1872-87; 1889-94; 1896-1911.  
1 cubic foot.

Consists of letters, receipts, and documents of the Haller Nutt family, Natchez. A large portion of the correspondence is between Sargeant Prentiss Knutt and his mother, Julia William Nutt.

S.P. Knutt lived and practiced law in Washington, D.C. Also of interest are documents concerning restitution of the thirty-two bales of cotton taken from the Nutt family during the Civil War.

Presented to the Department by the Pilgrimage Historical Association, Natchez.

Burns Family Papers. 1863-65. 70 items.

Civil War journal of G.S. Arnold (Company K, 11th Mississippi Regiment);

Civil War letters written by W.A. Burns to wife, Mary Ann Burns.

Presented to the Department by Mrs. John L. Arnold, Clarkesville, Georgia.

Welty (Eudora) Collection. Accretion. 1943-45; 1948-49; 1970s; 1980. .66 cubic feet.

Carbon TSs. of "Asphodel," "At the Landing," "The Delta Cousins," "Some Notes on River," "The Flower and the Rock," (later "Music from Spain"); "The Hummingbirds," first 9 pp. (later "The Wanderers"); galleys of The Golden Apples; scenes from, notes and letters about a scenario for The Robber Bridegroom, written in collaboration with John Robinson; eight essays about Welty's work, sent to her by scholars; three proofs of The Collected Stores.

#### Cartographic Records

East of the Island of New Orleans and East of Pearl Rivers [sic]. 1847. 1 piece.

Found by Madel Morgan in the Harrison County Courthouse in May 1985.

Shows most of the Bay of Biloxi and area north in T7R9W.

Photocopy.

Partie des Etats Unis, no. 56, from Atlas Universelle, Phillipe van der Maelen, lithographer. 1827. 1 piece.

Purchased from Old Maps & Prints & Books, Santa Fe, N.M., in May 1985.

Shows all of Mississippi (including Indian cessions), most of Alabama, parts of Louisiana and Tennessee, and the Indian territory north of Louisiana.

Embouchures du Mississippi, no. 61, from Atlas Universelle, Phillipe van der Maelen, lithographer. 1827. 1 piece.

Purchased from Old Maps & Prints & Books, Santa Fe, N.M., in May 1985.

Shows Mississippi River delta and bulge of Florida west of Baie Appalaches.

Inset: Tableau de la population du nouveau monde en l'annee 1823 apres Mr. de Humboldt.



Mississippi. 1855. 1 item.

J.H. Colton & Co.

Purchased from Mrs. Calvin L. Wells, Jackson. (\$65.00).

Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi. 1865. 1 item.

Folding map with original covers. Dated near the transfer of the Colton Company from John H. to George W. and Charles B. in 1865.

Purchased from High Ridge Books, Inc., Rye, N.Y. (\$252.00).

DeSoto Commission Maps. 1939. 11 items.

Maps used by the DeSoto Commission in its publication.

Removed from Department's second copy of printed report.

Mississippi. ca. 1823. 1 item.

A. Finley, Philadelphia.

Transferred from Department Reception Area.

Diagram of the the Surveying District South of Tennessee. 1837. 1 item.

Shows Choctaw and Chickasaw cessions; townships yet to be surveyed; townships having no field notes on file or record; townships having no field notes transcribed; townships having no field notes recorded; townships having no plats recorded. J.W. Stone, cartographer.

Purchased from The Jenkins Company, Austin, Texas (\$45.00).

Harbor of Vicksburg and proposed works. 1877. 1 item.

Prepared by the Citizen's Committee of the City of Vicksburg. Appendix G to accompany report of Board of U.S. Engineers officers.

Purchased from The Jenkins Company, Austin, Texas (\$45.00).

#### Graphic Records

##### Pictures

Card Photographs, Mississippi Photographers.

Presented by Patti C. Black. 15 items.

Gov. William Lewis Sharkey.

Presented by Kenneth C. Thomson, Jr. 2 items.

Photographs of Sharkey and wife.

Carl McIntire Collection.

Presented by Carl McIntire. 2 cubic feet.

Carroll County Courthouse.

Presented by MDAH. 5 items. 1984.

B.L.C. Wailes Gravesite.

Presented by MDAH. 3 items.

Rowland (David P.) Collection.

Presented by David P. Rowland. 7 items.

Color print of tintype of Confederate Infantryman Private John D. Jones; carte de visite of Joe Chalmers; carte de visite Linda Chalmers; tintype of James Ronald Chalmers.



Pen Pushers of Mississippi.

Presented by Roy L. Wilson. 1 item.

David School (Jackson).

Presented by Nash K. Burger. 1 item.

7th grade class, ca. 1921.

Last Delegation from Mississippi in the Congress of the United States.

Purchased from Susan Ammons. 1 item.

Harper's Weekly print.

Bolivar County Courthouse.

Presented by John J. Trumper, Jr. 1 item.

Non-extant Bolivar County courthouse at Rosedale.

Barnes (George E.) Collection.

Presented by G.E. Barnes. 3 items.

Finkbine Lumber Co.; Albert T. Martin.

Drane (James W.) Home.

Presented by Mrs. Lon D. Pepper, Sr. 2 items.

Postcard Negative Collection.

Transferred from Z 0922.00. ca. 1000 items.

von Seutter (E.) Collection.

Purchased from Raymond's Antiques. 83 items.

Works of E. von Seutter and son, Armin, of Jackson.

Board of Health. c. 1939. 2 items. Immunization.

Forestry. n.d. 2 items.

Franklin L. Riley. ca. 1900. 3 items.

WPA. ca. 1939. 2 items. Sewing.

Postcard Collection. ca. 1904. 3 items.

Annandale. n.d. 1 item.

Trimble (Will) Photograph Album. ca. 1880-1890. 1 volume

Photographs of people and places in Bolivar County, taken by Trimble.

Trimble made the album.

Presented by Fannie C. Blanchard Taylor, Jackson.

Marshall County Historical Society Photographs. n.d. 119 items.

Transferred from the Manuscript Collection.

Post Card Collection. n.d. ca. 300 items.

Presented by the Georgia Historical Society.

Hazlehurst. n.d. 1 item.



### Architectural Drawings

City Court & Jail Building, Jackson, 1927. 6 items.  
Presented by John Hester, Jackson.

St. Andrews Cathedral, Jackson. n.d. 3 items.

Spengler Building, Jackson. n.d. 3 items.  
Presented by Margaret Moise, Jackson.

Hinds County Armory Building, Jackson. n.d.  
Presented by Margaret Moise, Jackson.

### NEWS NOTES

#### UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI BLUES ARCHIVE

The University of Mississippi Blues Archive began operations on a full-time basis in November 1984. A branch of the John D. Williams Library, the Archive benefits from close collaboration with the Center for the Study of Southern Culture.

Three major collections from the nucleus of the Archives. The Kenneth S. Goldstein Folklore Collection consists of books, periodicals and phonograph records covering all aspects of folklore, with a strong emphasis on Southern folklore and music. The collection is especially strong in blues albums and recordings from the late 1950s through the 1970s, and in music-oriented magazines and periodicals from the same period. The B.B. King Collection includes promotional materials, posters, photographs and other materials concerning B.B. King himself as well as his personal collection of phonograph records. It includes over 10,000 78s, 45s, and LP albums ranging from classic blues to big-band jazz and of the musical influences on "The King of the Blues." The Living Blues Archival Collection, donated by Jim and Amy O'Neal, editors of Living Blues magazine, contains extensive subject files, photographs, posters, periodicals and taped interviews covering all aspects of the blues. The O'Neals have also donated their large collection of phonograph records, which includes many classic recordings, anthologies and over 10,000 45s.

These three collections are complementary in their coverage of blues topics ranging from the "folk revival" of the 1960s, through the contemporary international blues scene, to the influences and interchanges between blues, jazz and popular music. During the Archive's first year, other donations have also been received. They include records and documents on gospel music, and papers and mementos of blues artists Percy Mayfield and Lillie Mae Glover (Ma Rainey II). The papers of the Red Tops, a popular Mississippi dance orchestra, were donated by the band's drummer and manager, Walter Osborne of Vicksburg. A collection of over 1000 albums recorded by Mississippi-born musicians and



compiled by former Library Director, J.S. Hartin, has been transferred from the J.D. Williams Library. Several record companies, including Alligator, Kent, Malaco, and Original Jazz Library have donated their current recordings and promotional materials.

The Blues Archive has three full-time staff members: Archivist Suzanne Steel, assistant Walter Liniger, and Elaine White, who was hired recently to catalog the Goldstein Collection. Highlights of the first year include John Davis Williams Library, and a visit by one of the Archive's principal donors, bluesman B.B. King. Archival assistant Walter Liniger, who plays blues harmonica, performed with James "Son" Thomas of Leland at the Northeast Mississippi Blues and Gospel Festival in Holly Springs, and at the Delta Blues Festival in Greenville. He has received a grant from the Mississippi Arts Commission to study and document the music of James "Son" Thomas.

The Blues Archive is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Items from the collection do not circulate and must be used in the Archive, Room 340 Farley Hall. For further information on collections and policies call (601) 232-7753 or write Suzanne Flandreau Steel, Blues Archive, 340 Farley Hall, University of Mississippi, University, MS 38677. (Information by Suzanne Steel).

#### EVANS MEMORIAL LIBRARY, ABERDEEN

Additions to the Library's genealogical materials include a history of the Wigginton family given by Syble Wright and the book Notes on the Sims of Hanover-Louisa Counties, Virginia, written by Paul Arnot and given to the Library by Mrs. Elizabeth Gray of Starkville. Mrs. Grace Tuggle provided the Library with histories of the Meeks and Flournoy families. Ruth Harvey of Aberdeen donated a photocopy of a map of Baltimore County, Maryland, as surveyed by the state of Maryland in 1785.

#### MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

On October 12, 1985, a portrait of Congressman G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery was unveiled in the Special Collections Department. The portrait, which was painted by Tom Nielsen, was donated to the university by friends of Congressman Montgomery, many of whom attended the ceremony. A reception was also held in the library, where photographs and memorabilia from the Montgomery Papers were on exhibit.

#### SMA - SALA JOINT MEETING IN APRIL

Mark your calendars and make plans to attend the Society of Mississippi Archivists/Society of Alabama Archivists joint meeting scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, April 28-29, 1986. The site will be the beautiful Gulf Park Conference Center of the University of Southern Mississippi, located on the beach in Long Beach, Mississippi. An excellent program featuring speakers from Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana has been planned. The overall theme of the meeting will focus on the past progress that has been made in the archival professional, particularly in Alabama and Mississippi,



and the future prospects and challenges facing the archival profession in the years ahead. There will be something for everyone, including a shrimp boil on the beach. Accommodations will be available at the conference center for a modest \$18.00 per night. For those people planning to arrive Sunday evening, an informal mixer will be held in the conference center after 7:00 p.m. Detailed program information will be printed in the February issue of The Primary Source. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact the program chair, Terry S. Latour, University of Southern Mississippi, Southern Station Box 5148, Hattiesburg, MS 39406 or 266-4348.

The twentieth annual ARCHIVES INSTITUTE, sponsored by Emory University Division of Library and Information Management, in cooperation with the Georgia Department of Archives and History and the Carter Presidential Library, will be held in Atlanta from June 16-27, 1986. Designed for beginning archivists, manuscript curators, and librarians, the program provides an introduction to archival administration through lectures, field trips, and a practicum in a local archives. Tuition (non-credit) is \$350.00. Participants may also register for academic credit (four semester hours) from Emory University. Enrollment is limited and applications close on March 15, 1986. For additional information and application form, contact Archives Institute, Division of Library and Information Management, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia 30322.

#### "ADOPT AN ARCHIVES" PROGRAM

The College and University Archives Section of the Society of American Archivists has established an informal "Adopt an Archives" program to match experienced college and university archivists with others requesting assistance. Each experienced archivist will provide free, informal advice (by mail or telephone) to one other person. The program is designed to foster one-to-one relationships among people from various institutions and geographical areas, and to involve more people in the work of the College and University Archives Section.

Since its inception, eight matches have been made. Both "adoptors" and "adoptees" have been pleased with the outcome and recommend the program highly.

Individuals wishing to participate in the program, either as an "adopter" or an "adoptee", should contact the coordinator, Toby Murray, Archivist/Preservation Officer, McFarlin Library, University of Tulsa, 600 South College Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74104, (918) 592-6000, ext. 2864.

#### GUIDE TO NEWSFILM COLLECTION PUBLISHED

(JACKSON) "A Guide to the Newsfilm Collection, 1954 to 1971," has been published by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. The result of a two-year project supported by the National Historical Records and Publications Commission, the guide provides a descriptive index to film footage shot by a Jackson television station. The footage covers important



aspects of life during those years, including politics, the civil rights movement, state personalities, and other subjects of historical interest.

Elbert R. Hilliard, director of the Department of Archives and History, stated that "television archives are something new in the country. The Department was awarded this grant to do developmental arrangement and description work in film archives. The arrangement and description of 525,000 feet in the collection and the development of innovative computer application have produced a result that should have impact and significance in the archival world."

Hilliard said that special credit for work in the two-year newsfilm project goes to project director William Hanna, project archivist Lisa Buechele, and to Dr. Patricia Galloway, systems analyst, who developed the computer software for preparation of the subject index.

The printing of "A Guide to the Newsfilm Collection, 1954-1971," was limited to 500 copies. Copies have been distributed on a limited basis nationally and to major state repositories. Copies may be purchased at \$25.00 each. To order, or to obtain more information regarding the newsfilm collection, contact the Special Collections Section, Department of Archives and History, Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205, telephone, 359-1424.

#### NEW PUBLICATIONS FROM THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN ARCHIVISTS

Appraising the Records of Modern Science and Technology: A Guide written by Joan K. Hass, Helen Willa Samuels and Barbara Trippel Simmons encourages archivists to pursue collections in the scientific and technological areas more actively. The authors have structured the Guide around descriptions of the scientific and technological activities of scientists and engineers. Each activity and the records documenting it, is described, followed by discussion of appraisals consideration and examples. The Guide also makes recommendations on collecting, arrangement, description and developing retention guidelines for records in the field. Additional detailed sections in the manual provide guidelines on the handling of grant and contract records, data journal articles and technical reports and patents. The Guide is available for \$7.00 to SAA members and \$9.00 to non-members. (The American Archivist Summer 1985).

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY OF AMERICAN COUNTY HISTORIES

This bibliography provides a state by state listing of 5,000 county histories. Compilers of the volume consulted the county history holdings of the Library of Congress, the New York Public Library, published state bibliographies and librarians in each state. Copies are available from the Genealogical Publishing Company, Inc., 1001 North Calvert St., Baltimore, Maryland 21202. Cost of the book is \$26.20. (History News October 1985).



#### NATIONAL MOVING IMAGE DATA BASE PLANNED

The National Center for Film and Video Preservation has announced plans to establish a national moving-image data base. The American Film Institute and National Endowment for the Arts set up the center last year to save culturally important motion pictures and television programs. NEA awarded the center \$230,000 last year and an additional \$270,000 this year for the computerized data bank which will provide information on the availability, location and quality of film footage at various museums and archives across the country. For more information, call the National Center for Film and Video Presentation (202) 347-1003 in Washington, D.C. (History News August 1985).

#### TWENTY YEAR PLAN FOR THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The National Archives staff have completed a 20-year plan for the preservation of the Archives's three billion pages, millions of feet of motion pictures and computer tapes. The National Archives and Records Service Twenty Year Preservation Plan is available for \$10.00 from the National Technical Information (NTIS), Springfield, VA 22161. (History News August 1985).

#### OPINION: ACCESS TO UNPROCESSED COLLECTIONS

In the midst of our continuing efforts to be on the cutting edge of establishing collecting strategies, to achieve wisdom in our appraisal methods, to provide the ultimate in computer access to our holdings, and to keep up with the latest state-of-the-art developments in conservation and other technological aspects of archival work, I hope we archivists can take time to take a good long look at one of the major shortcomings of archives and archivists across America today: the unwillingness of archival institutions to provide research access to collections that have not yet been processed--in many instances involving collections for which there are no plans to process them in the near future.

We should abandon the tired shibboleths advanced in defense of closing unprocessed collections to researchers:

that such collections are rife for theft...it ain't necessarily so, for even the smallest institution can number items in small collections before they are given to researchers and whether or not we want to admit it, it's not all that difficult for the inveterate manuscript thief to remove items from large collections unless these pieces are individually cited in the collection inventory.

that we do researchers a disservice by providing them unappraised collections in dreadful order...not so, for I've never yet met a researcher who preferred not seeing a collection to using one in less than sublime archival order.

that we embarrass ourselves, our institutions, and our profession by forcing researchers to forage in collections that are in an advanced state is disruption...nonsense, again, because most researchers are well



aware of the financial constraints on archival operations and are appreciative of the assistance provided by our limited staffs. The most recurrent complaint I've heard during my 26 years of archival work is directed to institutions holding materials for years and years without permitting researchers to use them--this should be our source of embarrassment.

that most donors don't want people rummaging through their unprocessed papers and records...again, this simply is not the case; most donors are far more concerned about their files, processed or not, not being accessible rather than the converse.

that when collections are unprocessed, they may contain sensitive and confidential materials which can cause problems in our donor relationships and with our responsibility to protect such records...on the surface, this line of thinking has merit, but on the other hand, confidential records, such as social service case files, can usually be pinpointed without a great deal of trouble in a preliminary sorting of a collection shortly after it is received; similarly, we rarely have the time to look at every piece of paper in a large collection, even when we are processing these materials thoroughly.

It is time for archivists in small, poorly-funded operations to provide greater access to their holdings. If they cannot or will not do this, they should seriously consider transferring their holdings to an institution which can care for and service them more efficiently. It is also high time for large, prestigious institutions to face up to the fact that with a change of policy they can provide reasonable reference services on their unprocessed holdings by performing preliminary processing of them shortly after the time they are received and by allowing willing researchers to take their own time to go through these materials--which the overwhelming majority of them are certainly willing to do.

I strongly urge funding agencies, particularly those supported by public tax money, to continue to fund the sorely-needed and deeply-appreciated processing of quality archival and manuscript collections. I also urge these agencies to take the lead in recommending greater access to unprocessed materials in repositories across the nation, and that they give funding preference, when most other factors are equal, to archival processing requests from those institutions which make greater efforts to make their materials available to the public rather than arbitrarily holding these materials in quarantine until they are put in perfect archival order and a complete finding aid has been prepared for them.

--by Archie Motley

Chicago Historical Society

Reprinted from MAC Newsletter, October 1985





Society of American Archivists

ADMINISTRATION OF PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTIONS WORKSHOP

Mississippi Dept. of Archives and History - Jackson, Mississippi

March 24 - 26, 1986

This introductory workshop will consider photographic materials within an archival context. The following topics will be discussed during the three-day workshop: appraisal and collection development; arrangement and description; access policies; storage and handling; conservation; legal issues (including copyright and deed of gift); managing a copy service; and use of photographic materials for research, exhibition, and publication.

INSTRUCTORS

Gerald J. Munoff, co-author of Archives and Manuscripts: Administration of Photographic Collections, published by the Society of American Archivists.

Mary Lynn Ritzenthaler, co-author of Archives and Manuscripts: Administration of Photographic Collections, both published by the Society of American Archivists.

ELIGIBILITY

This introductory workshop is open to persons who currently hold positions working with photographic collections. Preference will be given to persons with little or no training in this area. An understanding of archival theory and practice will be assumed for the purposes of this workshop. Qualified applicants will be admitted on a first-come, first-served basis. No more than one representative from a repository will be admitted into the workshop so that as many institutions as possible may be served; enrollment is limited.

APPLICATION FEE

The fee for the workshop is \$75.00 and should accompany the application; if institutional billing is required, a \$10.00 fee will be added. Since enrollment is limited, early return of the application and registration fee is advised.

HOUSING

The workshop will be held at the Mississippi Department of Archives and History Charlotte Capers Building and arrangements have been made to hold a block of rooms for those participants needing overnight accommodations. Reservation cards will be sent to all workshop registrants.



PATRICIA PALMER, PROGRAM COORDINATOR  
THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN ARCHIVISTS  
600 S. FEDERAL, SUITE 504  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60605  
(312) 922-0140



SOCIETY OF MISSISSIPPI ARCHIVISTS

1986-87 Membership Renewal Notice\*

Please complete the following information, enclosing check or money order and this form and mail to:

Membership Chairman  
Society of Mississippi Archivists  
P.O. Box 1151  
Jackson, Mississippi 39205-1151

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(include 9 digit zip code if known) \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
(include area code)

Institutional Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

_____ Student	\$ 3.00
_____ Individual	\$ 7.50
_____ Institutional	\$15.00
_____ Patron	\$25.00 and more

All dues and contributions are tax deductible.

Please disregard this notice if dues have already been paid for this year.

\*The membership year now runs from annual meeting to annual meeting.